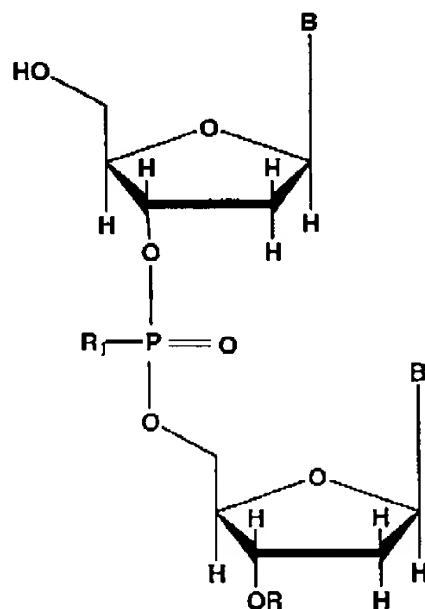


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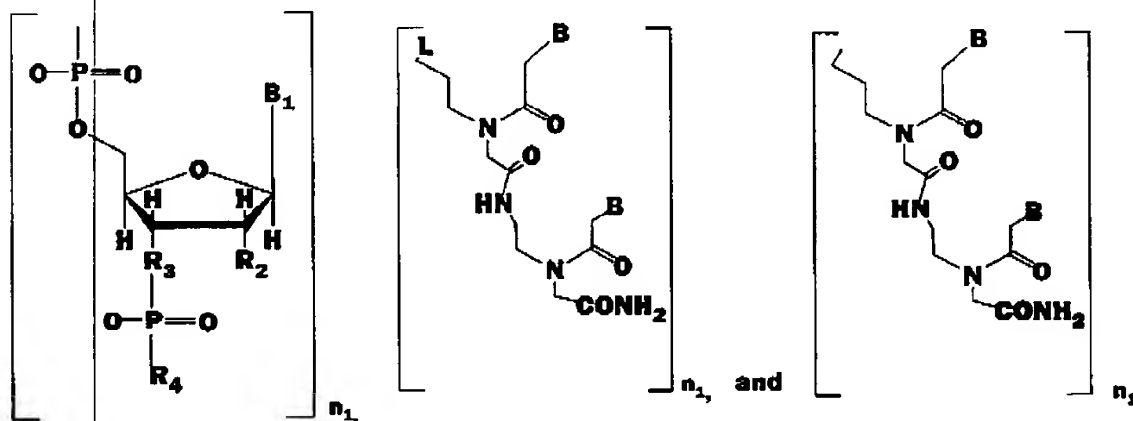
**IN THE CLAIMS**

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended twice) Chimeric oligonucleotides of the general formula I



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of



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and

wherein

 $n > 10; \leq 20$  $R_1 = S, CH_3, O$  $B =$  thymine, cytosine, adenine, guanine $n_1 > 3; \leq 17$  $B_1 =$  thymine, cytosine, adenine, guanine, 5-propyluracile, 5-propylcytosine; $R_2 =$  H, F,  $NH_2$ , O-alkyl ( $C_1-C_5$ ), O-allyl, O-methoxyethoxy, $R_3 =$  NH, O, provided that if  $R_3 = NH$ ,  $R_2 \neq$  not  $NH_2$ , is O-alkyl ( $C_1-C_5$ ), O-allyl, O-methoxyethoxy, $R_4 =$  2', 3'-dideoxy-3'-fluoroguanosine, 2', 3'-dideoxy-3'-azidoguanosine, 2', 3'-dideoxy-3'-aminoguanosine, 2', 3'-epoxyguanine, acyclovir, ganciclovir, 2'-deoxyadenosine, 2'-deoxyguanosine, 2'-deoxycytidine, 2'-deoxythymidine, $L =$   $-(PO_2)-OCH_2-COH-CH_2-NH-$  or  $-(PO_2)-OCH_2-CH(CH_2COOH)-(CH_2)_4NH-$ ,

and wherein each chimeric oligonucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing to the RNA component of the telomerase.

**CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

If any extension of time for this response is required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

**ADDITIONAL FEES**

Please charge any further insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application.

Claim 1 has been amended to delete the allegedly inappropriate sequence, and instead requires that each oligo have a sequence that hybridizes to the telomerase RNA component.